(ii) Announcement in consecutive Budgets aiming *inter-alia* at further rationalisation of duty structure in the textile sector and reducing costs of machinery critical to technology upgradation;

(iii) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100% through automatic route in the textile sector with certain exceptions;

(iv) Launching of a programme as part of Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme for modernisation of weaving capacities;

(v) Lunching of Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana for mobilization of the artisan community in important craft clusters all over the country into Self Help Groups and Thrift & Credit Societies; and

(vi) Launching of Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana on 1.4.2000 to provide assistance for the entire gamut of handloom sector activities.

Cotton and man made fibre Textile Mills in A.P.

2307. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cotton and man made fibre textile mills functioning in Andhra Pradesh as on date and how many of them are in public and private sector, separately;

(b) their combined production during the last two years, year-wise; and

(c) steps Government have taken for the modernisation of these mills in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OFTEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) and (b) The number of public and private sector cotton/man-made fibre textile mills (non-SSI) functioning in the State of Andhra Pradesh as on 31/01/2003 and production of spun yarn during 2000-01,2001 -02 is as under:

s No.	Management	No. of mills as on 31/01/2003	Production (Million Kg.)	
			2000-01	2001-02
1.	Public	0	0	0
2.	Private	56	136.30	144.08
	TOTAL:	56	136.30	144.08

(c) To modernize the textile and jute industry, Government has launched, for the whole of country including Andhra Pradesh, a Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) *w.e.f.* 1.4.1999 for a period of 5 years. The main feature of the Scheme is that it provides a reimbursement of 5% point on the interest charged by the lending agency on the term loan granted for a project of technology upgradation in conformity with this Scheme. All the sub-sectors of the textiles such as spinning, weaving, knitting, processing, garment making, cotton ginning and pressing and jute sector are covered under this Scheme.

Assistance to handloom weavers for modernization of looms

2308. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether handloom weavers in Andhra Pradesh are being provided assistance for modernization of their looms;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of looms modernized during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OFTEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) So far an amount of Rs. 2411.363 lakh has been sanctioned for modernization of 1,04,570 looms under different schemes.

(c) 16,113 looms have been modernized in Andhra Pradesh under different schemes during the last three years as detailed below:—